



Humorous Readings and Recitations

Total running time: 07:42:32

Before electronic mass media existed, public performances such as lectures and recitations were important ways of sharing new works with the public and of attracting public attention to issues and authors of the time. Public performance was, in a sense, the internet of its day, as people sought to learn of the world around them, as well as entertain themselves.

This anthology of short humorous pieces was intended for the use of those who participated in public performance, whether professionally or as part of a school or community program. The pieces themselves were intended to be read aloud for an audience.

The contributors to *Humorous Readings and Recitations* were all popular authors in the late nineteenth century. Some of their names, such as J. M. Barrie, Lewis Carroll, W. S. Gilbert, and W. M. Thackeray, are still well-known, while the popularity of others has waned.

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